SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the ICRISAT and the M.S. Swaminathan Foundation have been doing exceedingly good work, particularly in this field. Now, in view of the aims and objectives, which have been stated in the reply, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any plan of action to involve the Panchayati Raj Institution and NGOs in this very important area?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, it is for the new SAT-VU organisation to decide as to whom they will involve in it. They have already identified several institutions with whom they will be working. They are : the Government, the Karnataka Drought Management Centre, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and several national organizations are going to work with them. They have identified several open universities that will be working with them. But, as I said, it is still in the planning stage, and I want to reassure the Hon. Members that the Government will fully co-operate in this venture.

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Sir, out of seven States, identified for this scheme, Tamil Nadu is also one of them. I am grateful for it. In response to part 'B' of the question, it has been stated that a host of key institutions will come together to establish the State level . . . (*Interruptions*)

श्री सभापति : आप क्वेश्चन कीजिए। Whatever the Minister has said that is known to everybody.

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Government include more universities in the list of identified institutions?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, this venture has already identified several open universities, with whom they will be working. And, if they want to expand it, as I mentioned, the Government will be willing to help them.

Violation of DPCO in finished formulations

*504. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a price control on imported formulations also;

(b) what is Government's policy and which are the products that have been granted price approval of import of formulations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Ely Lilly, Nicholas, Aventis have flouted the DPCO fully in case of finished formulations prices; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that these cases have been referred to CBI for further probe?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Prices of scheduled imported formulations are fixed as per para 7 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995, by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). Para 7 provides that the landed cost shall form the basis for fixing its price alongwith such margin to cover selling and distribution expenses including interest and importer's profit which shall not exceed fifty per cent of the landed cost. Importers of non-Scheduled formulations fix their price on their own as per cost of import and prevailing market competition etc. NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations (including imported formulations) on the basis of information available to it from various sources.

(c) and (d) No case of flouting Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 provisions/price violation in case of finished formulation prices has come to the notice of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in respect of M/s Ely Lilly, M/s Nicholas and M/s Aventis. However, a technical fault in the prices charged by M/s Aventis Pharma Limited for two imported Insulin formulations came to the notice of NPPA. This has not been referred to CBI for further probe.

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा : सर, मैंने अपने प्रश्न के "ख" भाग में पूछा था कि इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या नीति है और वे कौन-कौन से उत्पाद हैं ? उन उत्पादों के बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने बताया नहीं है जब कि ऐसी कई एजेंसियां, ऐसी कई फर्म्स काम कर रही हैं जो कि नकली दवाइयां बेच रही हैं और जिस पर समय-समय पर सरकार को शिकायत भी मिलती रही है। महोदय, मैंने पूछा था कि मैसर्स एली लिली, निकोलस और अवेंटिस के बारे में

कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है ? आपने दो के बारे में मना कर दिया है और एक अवेंटिस के बारे में कहा है कि हमको इसकी दो शिकायतें प्राप्त हुईं। उसकी एन.पी.पी.ए. द्वारा जांच कराई गई और दोषी पाया है। उसके बाद आप ने केस को सी.बी.आई. को क्यों नहीं दिया ?

श्री सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा : सर, उसमें टैक्नीकल नुक्श था। उन्होंने दो की करवा ली—एक ही किस्म का पैक था, एक ही किस्म का इंसुलिन थी। पहले चार का था, टैक्नीकली चार्ज वही करते रहें, लेकिन उन्होंने किया नहीं। नोटिस दिया है और उस पर एज पर रूल एक्शन लिया जाएगा।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा : सर, मैंने पूछा था कि कौन-कौन से उत्पाद हैं ? दूसरे मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि इसकी जांच कब की गयी और एन.पी.पी.ए. द्वारा कब दोषी पाया गया ? फिर वह केवल सी.बी.आई. को क्यों नहीं दिया ?

श्री सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा : सर, सी.बी.आई. का तो केस ही नहीं है। यह तो टैक्नीकल नुक्श था। अब उसको नोटिस दिया है और 30 मई तक जवाब मांगा है। हम उस पर एक्शन लेंगे।

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, I would like to put just one question. There are a lot of countries, including the United States, the U.S. Department of Commerce which are trying to bring pressure on India to remove the Drug Price Control Orders (DPCO), so that the prices of foreign drugs can go up. This will wreak havoc with our health system. Our poor people will die. Will the Minister assure us that he will not yield to such pressures; and, on the contrary, he will strengthen the DPCO so that the people in this country, particularly the poor people, at least, have the right to live?

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Sir, I assure the House, डी०पी०सी०ओ० खत्म नहीं होगा और जो आम पब्लिक के लिए यूज होगा, वह इसके कंट्रोल में ही रहेगा।

श्री सभापति : क्वैश्चन नं० 505.

मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय

* 505. प्रो० रामबख्श सिंह वर्मा : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में कुल कितने मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित किए गए हैं;